

08-07-02
alexander holtzman

8 JUL 1977

RWM

cc: messrs. galsch (ftr), d.k. hoel (kansas city), aeb and rwm (pme)

dr. bentley said in his letter of june 30, 1977 concerning the first meeting of the working party on 21/22 july the following:

quote:

i see three broad problems relating to the "current state of scientific knowledge on the multifactorial origin of certain diseases" in the context of smoking and health, namely:

- i) knowledge of the extent to which associations between smoking and particular diseases are likely to be causative or not;
- ii) knowledge of the mechanisms involved where associations are causative, with consequences, e.g. for product modification and
- iii) knowledge of the relative importance of smoking and other causative factors in diseases associated with smoking which occur also in non-smokers.

if we are not to attempt the impossible, in the time available for discussion at our first meeting, we should perhaps confine ourselves, at first, to diseases of major concern to our industry. accordingly i propose:

that we restrict our discussion to diseases associated with smoking which occur also in non-smokers:

- b) that in regard to these diseases we consider only:
 - i) cardiovascular disease
 - ii) effects of smoking in pregnancy
 - iii) risks to health for non-smokers arising from smoking

it is obviously for consideration whether or not we should discuss also the association between smoking and chest disease, notably lung cancer: my provisional view is that so very much is already known in this area that further discussion - although important - does not warrant high priority.

c) that we should consider each of the diseases in relation to the three areas of knowledge to which i refer earlier in this letter.

d) that we pay particular attention to the state of knowledge on the hypotheses that nicotine and carbon monoxide specifically are causatively linked with diseases associated with smoking which occur also in non-smokers.

may i please emphasise that the foregoing are only my own suggestions for areas of discussion where we might hope to make sufficient progress in time to produce at least an interim report by the 17th september. you might well disagree with my suggestions and if so it would be very helpful if you could find time to let me have any comments before we meet. if however, you do not disagree, i propose to organize the meeting along the lines i have suggested.

unquote:

dr. galsch was discussing this issue with dr. fagan. you might consider discussing it also with other companies involved.

regards

paul laerling

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